

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1849

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, ETRD, GR

SUBJ: GREECE AND GSP: REVERSE PREFERENCES

1. THE FOLLOWING NOTE WAS SENT TO THE EMBASSY ON DECEMBER
19: QUOTE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES AND
REFERRING TO ITS NOTE NO. 352 OF THE DECEMBER 2, 1975
ON THE "UNITED STATES GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES
FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ITS RELATION TO THE TARIFF
PREFERENCES AFFORDED BY GREECE TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY", HAS THE HONOUR TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:
THE GREEK AUTHORITIES ARE UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED TO
LEARN THAT THE COMMITMENTS OF GREECE UNDER ITS ASSOCIATION
AGREEMENT WITH THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ARE QUALIFIED
BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS TARIFF PREFERENCES
HAVING ADVERSE EFFECTS ON A NUMBER OF PARTICULAR
EXPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES TO GREECE.
ON THIS OCCASION, IT IS ALSO RECALLED THAT THE
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GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES HAS BEEN DESIGNED

TO ASSIST COUNTRIES OF LOWER STANDARDS TO ATTAIN HIGHER DEGREES OF DEVELOPMENT. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT GREECE IS A BENEFICIARY OF THE GENERALIZED SYSTEMS OF PREFERENCES APPLIED BY A NUMBER OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

UNDER THE CURCUMSTANCES, THE INCLUSION OF PARALLEL COUNTRIES TO GREECE IN THE UNITED STATES GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES IS LIKLEY TO HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON GREEK EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES IF GREECE IS NOT ALSO INCLUDED.

IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, THE GREEK AUTHORITIES WELCOME THE INVITATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS ON THEIR APPLICATION TO BE INCLUDED AS A BENEFICIARY OF THE UNITED STATES GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCE. UNQUOTE (FOLLOWED BY COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE).

2. EMBOFF CALLED SKOUROLIAKOS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS TO INQUIRE WHY REPLY TOOK ABOVE FORM WHEN LANDE, IN JULY VISIT, HAD MADE CLEAR THAT SECTION 502(B) (3) OF THE TRADE ACT PLACES AN OBLIGATION ON GREECE TO REDUCE TARIFFS ON ITEMS WHERE GREECE'S PREFERENCES TO THE EEC HAVE HAD A SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECT ON U.S. EXPORTS. SKOUROLIAKOS REPLIED THAT THE GOG'S POINT OF VIEW IS THAT GREECE'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE EC HAD NOT RESULTED IN ANY SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON ANY ITEMS IN U.S.-GREEK TRADE.

KUBISCH

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